



UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND
7115 SOUTH BOUNDARY BOULEVARD
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 33621-5101

February 13, 2012

Mr. Michael Morisy
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 998
PO Box 55819
Boston, MA 02205-5819

Dear Mr. Morisy,

We received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for a copy of all processing notes and files, including the original essay which was forwarded to USCENTCOM, for FOIA request 768-720-12377 (USCENTCOM FOIA Request number 11-0288). We are processing your request in accordance with Title 5 U.S.C. § 552 Freedom of Information Act, Department of Defense Freedom of Information Act Regulation, Privacy Act Guide, and Executive Order 13526. The actual processing time depends upon consultation with other DOD components, stateside, overseas, or other agencies.

You requested a fee waiver. In order to qualify for a fee waiver, the requester must demonstrate that the requested information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of the operations or activities of the United States Government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester. You, the requester, must satisfy these statutory requirements before United States Central Command (USCENTCOM) waives fees. Unfortunately, your request fails to address how this request "significantly" contributes to the public understanding or meaningfully informs the public of government operations. Therefore, I cannot approve your request for a fee waiver.

In your FOIA request you asked for notification if we denied your fee waiver request. My office emailed you on January 12, 17 – 19 and February 7, 2012 to discuss the issues of fees for this request. All the emails we sent to your email addresses were returned undeliverable. Please send a letter or email to my office and indicate your willingness to pay fees and state the amount you are willing to pay so that we may process your FOIA request. If we do not hear from you within 30 days of the date of this letter, my office will administratively close your FOIA request.

If you are not satisfied with the fee waiver denial, you have the right to submit an administrative appeal to the appellate authority, the Director of Administration and Management, Office of the Secretary of Defense. To submit your appeal, you should write directly to the Defense Freedom of Information Policy Office, Attn: Mr. James Hogan, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301-1155. Please postmark your appeal within 60 calendar days of the date of this letter, cite to the request number 12-0089, and clearly mark "Freedom of Information Act Appeal" on your appeal letter.

The USCENTCOM FOIA Requester Service Center receives numerous FOIA requests and has a substantial number of pending FOIA cases; therefore, we process requests in a multi-track processing system based on the date of receipt and complexity of the request. The FOIA does not require agencies to respond to questions, to do research, compile or analyze data, summarize, or conduct surveys for members of the public. Please be aware that the FOIA only provides the means by which the public can request specific USCENTCOM documents. Detailed and descriptive requests ensure that USCENTCOM accurately and efficiently researches and answers your request in a timely manner.

If you have any questions regarding your inquiry, please contact USCENTCOM FOIA Requester Service Center at (813) 529-6714, foiaoffice@centcom.mil, and refer to request number 12-0089.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Walker', with a stylized flourish at the end.

DONALD S. WALKER
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Air Force
Chief, Command Records Branch